

The follow-on study by Szantoi et al. titled “An update and beyond: key landscapes for conservation land cover and change monitoring, thematic and validation datasets for the African, Caribbean and Pacific region” is a valuable and welcomed study. The manuscript is well written, albeit several grammar and typographical/formatting transgressions. The following questions/comments is noted:

L53-55: why use SPOT data for only TL? Why not use SPOT data for all areas and/or S-2 and Landsat for all areas? Please explain/clarify.

Study area: what is the reasoning for selecting the four sites (phase 1) for remapping? Why not remap all phase 1 sites?

Table 1: formatting of values in “Area” column

L84: please clarify the statement “optional topographic correction”.

L86-88: incoherent and not easily interpretable. Please rewrite/restructure sentences for clarity.

L100: “Automatic”. Please clarify how the classification process is automatic/automated.

L101: please clarify the statement “pre-selected imagery”. Were not all the data used?

L102: please clarify the need to “reduce data dimensionality” considering that all the data together with the VI were processed as a data cube.

L110: please clarify the statement “All the pre-processed data”. Seems redundant considering that all data were pre-processed and used in the analysis?

L120-134: text is vague and incoherent. Please rewrite/restructure text for cohesion and coherence.

L194-196: what is the basis for deciding on the minimum overall, thematic, and LCC accuracy?

“Discussion”: avoid superfluous language, e.g. adjectives such as “tremendous”.

L248: provide argument for the robustness of the validation process as described in L156-161. How is the process robust and perhaps more importantly repeatable, considering the inherent human error/bias? What are the alternatives to ensuring robustness and repeatability?

“Sources of errors”: what of bias and uncertainty?

L308-309: why not re-project all data to a common projected coordinate system?

L320-321: how robust and repeatable is this process?